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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1317

April 27, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chairman, Committee on
Transportation & Infrastructure
2251 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member, Committee on
Transportation & Infrastructure
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves,

I am requesting funding for the Adams/Jefferson 2-Way Conversion in surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the City of Peoria and the project is located at Adams Street from Walnut Street to Hamilton Boulevard and Jefferson Street from Walnut Street to Fayette Street in Peoria, IL 61602.

The funding is designated for converting Adams and Jefferson Streets to two-way traffic to improve access to businesses downtown, provide direct access to I-74 eastbound and reduce emissions by providing direct access to destinations. Mast arm mounted signals will be constructed at the eight intersections, improving the signal visibility. Signals will be upgraded for two-way traffic at four other intersections. The proposed cross section is one lane each way with a center turn lane and a bike lane. Bump-outs and new ADA ramps will be constructed at corners to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility.

Downtown Peoria is an urban commercial district. In 1951 Adams and Jefferson Streets were converted to one-way traffic to move vehicles through downtown as fast as possible. History shows one-way streets lead to increased speeds, pedestrian barriers, and hinder property access. In 2012 Peoria converted portions of Adams and Jefferson Streets back to two-way operations.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits: increasing safety by slowing traffic speeds; decreasing vehicle trips; reducing the pedestrian crossing distance; and providing safe bicycle access.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Respectfully,

Cheri Bustos

Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress
April 27, 2021